

Charity Update

Commander Mike Goldthorpe BEM, CEO RNOC

The Royal Navy Officers' Charity (RNOC), working in partnership with ARNO at Porchester Terrace, is dedicated to supporting serving and former Officers of the Naval Service and their families. The charity supports people at all stages of their lives and careers and is recognised for its quick decisions at application stage and its real impact on a wide range of beneficiaries. While supporting those in need through one-off grants, the RNOC also provides long-term benevolence to meet diverse ongoing needs. As we approach the end of 2019 the charity has awarded grants totalling in excess of £400k.

Our grants provide assistance with the cost of nursing and care home fees, mobility aids, household adaptations and repairs, debts and end of life care.

We also help families and individuals with the rising cost of education, training and transition, as the following extract shows.

'It is with great delight that I am able to inform you that, thanks to RNOC's incredible generosity and support over the past five years, I have finally gained my degree from the University of Northampton and am therefore now a qualified occupational therapist. Your support, together with that of the other charities involved, has utterly transformed my recovery journey following my medical discharge in 2013. I am hoping to work with the veteran community, as I believe my recovery experience and consequent deep understanding of veterans' particular difficulties, together with my newly developed skills and qualification, may give me a unique skillset to help others in their recovery.'

The Charity supports people in coping with unexpected challenges in their lives, both practical and emotional.

'Thank you for including me in your regular grants scheme. I had a nasty fall recently and because of your generosity was able to purchase a wheelchair – which has been a Godsend.'

'I wish to thank the RNOC for its support. It is a sad time in our lives. Ivan and I have been married for fifty-eight years and had so hoped to spend our twilight years under the same roof – but Ivan is well looked after in Handford House and I visit daily.'

And from a former member of the WRNS: 'It just never seems enough to say "thank you", but 2019 can begin for me in such a better way and your kind help is making this happen. Thank you for rescuing me.'

Looking ahead, the RNOC wants to engage with and support more people. Working alongside ARNO, and with other charities, we will continue to promote and raise awareness of our support services. Please pass on our details to anyone you think might benefit from our work.

For more details visit: www.rnoc.org.uk

